

WOODBIDGE IRRIGATION DISTRICT

18777 N. LOWER SACRAMENTO ROAD

WOODBIDGE, CALIFORNIA 95258

(209) 369-6808

FAX: 369-6823

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SECRETARY / TREASURER
JIM SHULTS
SUPERINTENDENT**

May 6, 2002

Mr. Dan Ray
CALFED Bay Delta Program
Suite 1416 9th Street, Suite 630
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: CALFED Bay-Delta ERP PSP
Lower Mokelumne River Restoration Program
Woodbridge Fish Passage Improvement Project; Phase 2&3
Proposal Number 255

Dear Mr. Ray,

We request that you reconsider the CALFED Selection Panel's recommendation for the above project and the project a higher priority, and reclassify it from "Not Recommended to either "Above Average" or Superior", to be funded "AS IS", or "In Part, if full funding is not available. The basis for this request is that the CALFED Selection Panel must not have been aware of the CALFED requirement that the LMRRP design the project with the direct involvement Federal and State fishery agencies. The agencies and the LMRRP sponsors selected the best design alternative from 14 alternatives studied over a two year period.

The Selection Panel stated that: "Other, less costly options are available and should be explored. The technical team in reviewing this proposal suggested exploring restoring the river to its original channel to facilitate an on-river fish screen option at the head of the existing diversion channel would provide better biological benefits at less cost."

A look at Woodbridge's original project (1997) proposal shows that a very similar design was initially proposed except for filling in the dredge cut channel. A CALFED mandated condition of the first funding agreement required Woodbridge to conduct a "Preliminary Alternatives Assessment and to negotiate the preferred project with NMFS, USFWS, USBR, CDFG, EBMUD, and the City of Lodi to select the alternative that best met the needs of the fishery and concerns of all parties. We did, it took two years and an enormous amount of work. During this period, engineers and biologists from NMFS, USFWS, CDFG, Woodbridge and Lodi attended monthly meetings and put hundreds of hours in correcting fish passage problems at Woodbridge. Local recreational and wildlife groups spent an enormous amount of time promoting the project at Salmon Festivals and project events. It does not seem reasonable that the Selection Panel can summarily

Mr. Dan Ray, CALFED
May 6, 2002

overturn the results of such a considered-and CALFED required procedure and re-design the project. Their decision to disregard the results of the CALFED process imposed upon Woodbridge requiring the agencies to guide the design and approve the proposed project makes it a meaningless exercise that should not be imposed on applicants or the participating agencies.

The evaluation further states that, "This project would be rated higher if the applicant contributed a significant cost-share portion of the project (on the order of 50%). The 50% cost share was not a requirement in the PSP, and to our knowledge, few project funded matched CALFED with 50% of their own LOCAL funds. Some of the fish passage projects funded by CALFED were matched with CVPIA funds or other federal/state grant funds, but minimal local funds. The LMRRP proposed a local applicant cost share of \$600,000 toward the project.

The LMRRP proposed project was rated very high the regional review panel, and was given high praise and recommendations but given a low ranking by the CALFED Technical Team. There is no support for the lowest ranking of "NOT Recommended" at the bottom of the list. There are NO serious deficiencies, or deficiencies of any kind; there are no significant regional impediments; and no cause for significant administrative concerns. If the concern is a question of cost, CALFED could have funded the project in part. The project was presented in the PSP as capable of being built in phases if full funding was not available. If the concern was a question of cost share, CALFED could have proposed that WID and Lodi pay for a greater portion of the project cost a condition of funding either part or all of the project.

The LMRRP project is fully designed and permitted, ready to be constructed. Over a four year period, CALFED prioritized and authorized \$2.6 million project spent on design, engineering and permitting. Why did CALFED spend tax dollars on engineering this project and give up on the construction of the LMRRP project? Funding a portion or all of the LMRRP could give CALFED higher credibility on its ability to follow through on building large complex projects (where CALFED is playing a major role) and assure tax payers that precious tax pay dollars are not being wasted. The LMRRP project supporters have work tirelessly to gain strong local, county and regional support for this project. We urge you to reconsider funding for this project and restore its priority status.

Very Truly Yours,



Anders Christensen, Manager
Woodbridge Irrigation District



RECEIVED
OCT 3 2001
CALFED Bay-Delta Program

Senator Dianne Feinstein
Washington, D. C.

October 2, 2001

Mr. Dan Ray
Grant Coordinator
CALFED
1416 9th Street
Suite 630
Sacramento, California 95814

Dear Mr. Ray:

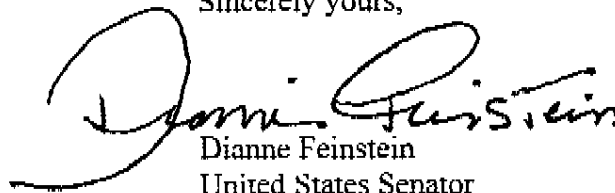
I am writing in support of a grant application submitted by the Woodbridge Irrigation District to the CALFED Bay Delta Program, 2002 Proposal Solicitation Package.

The Woodbridge Irrigation District is seeking this funding in order to provide for improved fish passage and habitat along the tributaries and main stem of the San Joaquin river. This project will serve to address community needs in the areas of water quality, flood control, pumping facilities, public safety and recreation. The proposed project has been undertaken with a variety of agencies, making it a valuable and viable partnership. I hope you will give this application your every consideration.

Thank you in advance for your assistance with this matter. I would appreciate being informed of any decision that you reach regarding this proposal. If you have any questions, please do not hesitate to contact me or Juliette de Campos in my Fresno office at (559) 485-7430.

With warmest personal regards.

Sincerely yours,


Dianne Feinstein
United States Senator

RICHARD W. POMBO
11TH DISTRICT, CALIFORNIA

COMMITTEE ON AGRICULTURE

CHAIRMAN-SUBCOMMITTEE ON
LIVESTOCK AND HORTICULTURE

COMMITTEE ON RESOURCES

WASHINGTON ADDRESS:
2411 KATYBURN HOUSE OFFICE BUILDING
WASHINGTON, DC 20510-0011
(202) 225-1947
DISTRICT OFFICE ADDRESS:
2405 WEST MARCH LANE
SUITE 104
STOCKTON, CA 95207
(209) 961-0081

Congress of the United States
House of Representatives
Washington, DC 20515-0511

May 10, 2002

Mr. Dan Ray
CALFED Bay Delta Program
1416 9th St. Suite 630
Sacramento, CA 95814

MAY 10 2002
10:15 AM

Dear Mr. Ray,

It has come to my attention that CALFED has given the Lower Mokelumne River Restoration Program a "not recommended" rating in the 2002 CALFED Funding PSP.

The Woodbridge Irrigation District has been working with all the state and federal agencies over the past years to develop this project. They have taken all the recommendations from the fishery agencies and implemented them in the proposed plan, however, now CALFED has decided they do not agree with the project after years of support of the project.

This project is fully designed and permitted. With the proper funding this project would benefit the farmers and residents of Lodi and the fish that use the Mokelumne River for habitat. I strongly urge you to reconsider your rating of "not recommended" and change it to an "above average or superior rating.

Sincerely,



Richard Pombo
Member of Congress



JACK A. SIEGLOCK
MEMBER
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
FOURTH DISTRICT

222 EAST WEBER AVENUE
ROOM 701
STOCKTON, CALIFORNIA 95202
TELEPHONE (209) 468-3113
FAX (209) 468-3694

DENISE WARMERDAM
Legislative Assistant

May 9, 2002

Mr. Dan Ray
CALFED Bay Delta Program
1416 9th Street, Suite 630
Sacramento, CA. 95814

Dear Mr. Ray:

I am writing you in regard to my continued strong support for funding of the Lower Mokelumne River Restoration Program (LMRRP) by CALFED.

Please find attached numerous letters of support from the San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors

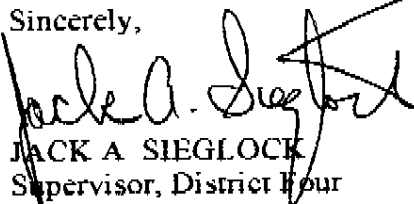
As the representative from the area in which the project would be constructed, I appreciate the many benefits from the LMRRP including improved fish passage, improved water quality, assistance with flood control, fish and wildlife restoration, and recreation.

As a representative on all of San Joaquin County's water committees, I am pleased to report the non-controversial nature of the project and high degree of countywide support.

In view of the LMRRP's benefits, countywide support, CALFED's support for four years, and since the project is fully designed and permitted, I would appreciate full or partial funding for the project. Moreover, I would appreciate the rating for the LMRRP being changed to "Superior"

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions regarding my support at (209) 468-3113.

Sincerely,


JACK A. SIEGLOCK
Supervisor, District Four

Cc: Anders Christensen, Manager
Woodbridge Irrigation District



JACK A. SIEGLOCK
MEMBER
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
FOURTH DISTRICT

222 EAST WEBER AVENUE
ROOM 701
STOCKTON, CALIFORNIA 95202
TELEPHONE (209) 468-3113
FAX (209) 468-3694

DENISE WARMERDAM
Legislative Assistant

September 12, 2001

Mr. Anders Christensen, Manager
Woodbridge Irrigation District
18777 North Lower Sacramento Road
Woodbridge, Ca. 95258

Dear Mr. Christensen:

This letter is to voice my support for your application for \$20 million of CALFED Funding of the Lower Mokelumne River Restoration Program from the CALFED 2002 Proposal Solicitation Package.

As the County Supervisor representing the area in which the project would be constructed, I appreciate the many benefits from the LMRRP including: improved fish passage, improved water quality, assistance in flood control, fish and wildlife restoration, recreation and the preservation of Lodi Lake.

As a representative on many San Joaquin County water committees, I am pleased to note the high degree of support your project has received countywide

In view of the numerous benefits of the LMRRP, I continue to strongly support your request for funding from CALFED for the benefit of the area, county and state.

Please do not hesitate to contact me if you have any questions regarding my support at (209) 468-9699.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature of Jack A. Sieglock is written over a horizontal line. The signature is in cursive and appears to read "Jack A. Sieglock".

JACK A. SIEGLOCK
Supervisor, District Four



BOARD OF SUPERVISORS

222 EAST WEBER AVENUE, ROOM 701
STOCKTON, CALIFORNIA 95202

TELEPHONE: 209/468-1113
Fax: 209/468-3691

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County Administrator

TERRENCE R. DERMODY
County Counsel

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Clerk of the Board

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THIRD DISTRICT

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FOURTH DISTRICT

STEVE GUTIERREZ
FIRST DISTRICT

MARIO L. MARENCO
SECOND DISTRICT

ROBERT J. CABRAL
FIFTH DISTRICT

May 11, 2000

CALFED Bay-Delta Program
1416 Ninth Street, Room 1148
Sacramento, California 95814

SUBJECT: LETTER OF SUPPORT FOR THE LOWER MOKELUMNE RIVER
RESTORATION PROGRAM


Gentlemen:

The San Joaquin County Board of Supervisors supports the Lower Mokelumne River Restoration Program, as being led and developed by the Woodbridge Irrigation District. The Board urges the CALFED to finance the \$700,000 Grant Application for Fiscal Year 2001 funding of this program.

The funding for the completion of the engineering design and prioritization study will help bring this important environmental project to a successful completion. The project has the benefit of providing important fishery-rearing habitat and local recreational facilities. The public would be greatly served by providing these two joint benefits.

Your support of this important Grant Application is appreciated.

Sincerely,



EDWARD A. SIMAS, Chairman
Board of Supervisors
Third District

EAS:JWP:to
CALFED\WOODBRIDGE\TR

c: Anders Christensen, General Manager
Woodbridge Irrigation District

Manuel Lopez, Director of Public Works



ROBERT J. CABRAL
MEMBER
BOARD OF SUPERVISORS
FIFTH DISTRICT

222 EAST WEBER AVENUE
ROOM 701
STOCKTON, CALIFORNIA 95202

TELEPHONE (209) 468-3113
FAX (209) 468-3694

VICKIE MELLO
Legislative Assistant

June 30, 1999

Ms. Wendy Halverson Martin
Restoration Coordinator
CALFED Bay-Delta Program
416 Ninth Street, Suite 115
Sacramento, California 95814

SUBJECT: CALFED BAY-DELTA PROGRAM ECOSYSTEM RESTORATION PROJECTS

Dear Ms. Halverson Martin:

We have received the 1999 proposals recommended for funding under the CALFED Bay-Delta Ecosystem Restoration Project. We find there are six projects recommended for funding in San Joaquin County. These projects are shown on the abstracted summary sheet, which has been abstracted from the total list of projects. While we were informed of some of these projects, no action has been taken on behalf of the water interests or the Board of Supervisors in regard to support or non-support of the projects. This process appears to be extremely flawed in that a program could be approved which is not consistent with other programs going on within the County.

Of the projects recommended for funding, we find there are two projects which we do not support. These projects are titled "Linked Hydrogeomorphic Ecosystem Models to Support Adaptive Management, Consumnes-Mokelumne Paired Basin". This program does not appear to provide tangible benefits in the form of habitat or flood control and does not appear to protect or propagate fish or wildlife.

We also find the project titled "Dissolved Organic Carbon Release from Delta Wetlands, Part 1" to be a program that will duplicate information which is to be produced through the ongoing environmental analysis being performed in connection with the State Water Resources Control Board's review of the Delta Wetlands Project. This money could well be used for a more beneficial project.

There are two projects that did not receive a recommendation for funding that are of importance to this County. These projects are the "Lower Mokelumne River Restoration Program" and the "Banta-Carbena Irrigation District Positive Barrier Fish Screen." Both of these projects would provide positive benefits to the Delta Ecosystem and the long-term benefits to the water interests within San Joaquin County. We request that you reconsider the funding of these two projects.

If you have any questions regarding the details of these projects, please contact John W. Pulver, Water Resources Coordinator, at (209) 468-3089.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in black ink, appearing to read "Robert J. Cabral", written over a horizontal line.

ROBERT J. CABRAL
Chairman of the Board of Supervisors

RJC:JWP:gn
v. 5 9/25/01

c: Henry M. Hirata, Director of Public Works
John W. Pulver, Water Resources Coordinator

25



May 7, 2002

Mr. Dan Ray
CALFED Bay Delta Program
1416 9th St., Suite 630
Sacramento, CA 95814

JOHN B. LAMPE
DIRECTOR OF WATER AND NATURAL RESOURCES
(510) 287-1121
jlampe@ebmud.com

JON A. MYERS
MANAGER OF NATURAL RESOURCES
(510) 287-1121
jmyers@ebmud.com

SUBJECT: Lower Mokelumne River Restoration Plan

Dear Mr. Ray:

The East Bay Municipal Utility District (EBMUD) has been cooperating with the Woodbridge Irrigation District (WID) and the City of Lodi to develop and implement the Lower Mokelumne River Restoration Program (LMRRP) to improve fish passage at Woodbridge Dam. Over the past four years, CALFED has invested \$2,600,000 in the design, engineering, and permitting for this project, which is now fully designed and permitted. Response to public scoping meetings and outreach events has been a strong support for the proposed new dam and fish passage facilities and public recreation enhancements. Consequently, we were very disappointed to learn that the CALFED Selection Panel did not recommend the LMRRP for further funding, and even more disappointed that the panel gave a "Not Recommended" rating for this project proposal submitted under the CALFED 2002 PSP.

As the Regional Panel noted, technical experts from EBMUD, National Marine Fisheries Service, US Fish and Wildlife Service, California Department of Fish and Game, Woodbridge Irrigation District, and the City of Lodi worked cooperatively to develop a design to provide the best fish passage conditions while meeting the irrigation requirements of WID and the recreation and aesthetic needs of the City of Lodi. Other alternatives were explored through the Preliminary Alternatives Assessment Process, but none of these alternatives would meet the needs of all parties.

Based on the proven technology of this project, the strong local, regional, and agency support, and the significant ecosystem-based benefits of the project, EBMUD believes the project deserves an "Above Average" or "Superior" rating. Either of these ratings would be consistent with CALFED's recent support of this project.

Thank you for this opportunity to comment on the Selection Panel's recommendations. We strongly encourage CALFED to consider funding the project in some small part, if full funding is not available at this time, so that progress on this restoration program can continue with a combination of CALFED and local funding. The project proposal was developed so that individual segments of the project could be funded separately.

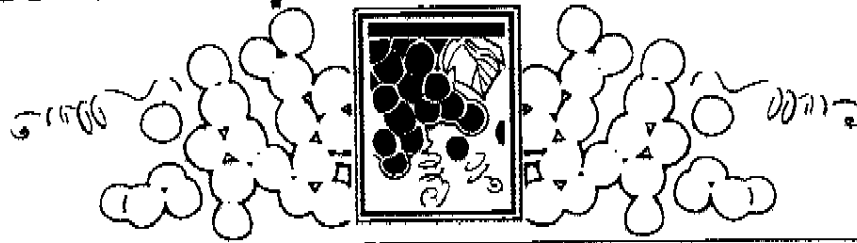
Very truly yours,

A handwritten signature of Jon A. Myers in dark ink.

Jon A. Myers, Manager
Natural Resources Department

375 ELEVENTH STREET, OAKLAND, CA 94607-4240, FAX (510) 287-1275
P.O. BOX 24055, OAKLAND, CA 94623-1055

Lodi District Grape Growers Association, Inc.



P.O. BOX 2004 • LODI, CALIFORNIA 95241-2004 • (209) 339-8246

OFFICERS

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President

Bruce Fry
Vice President

Dale Carlson
Secretary

Rob Kammerer
Treasurer

April 26, 2002

Mr. Dan Ray
CALFED Bay Delta Program
1416 9th Street, Suite 630
Sacramento, CA 95814

DIRECTORS

Steve Borra, Jr.

Tracy Holmes

Bob Lauchland

Kyle Lerner

Tom Murphy

Diego Olagaray

Kip Stoenbner

Dear Mr. Ray,

We urge you to reconsider the rating for the Lower Mokelumne River Restoration Program(LMRRP) from "Not Recommended" to "Above Average or Superior." There was a proven commitment by the LMRRP to work with Federal and State Fishery agencies to develop the agreed upon plan from the Preliminary Alternatives Assessment Report, which was mandated by CALFED prior to the design and permitting.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR

Erica Moyer

LMRRP has been a priority of CALFED, which has spent \$2.6 million in four years on design, engineering and permitting. The LMRRP is fully designed and permitted, ready to be constructed. It is now time to build and for CALFED to finish the process which had begun four years ago and fund the project. However, if full funding is not available, CALFED could fund the project "in part" by funding the Dam Weir or the Fish Screen at Woodbridge canal.

Protecting our environment and habitat is important to this agricultural based community. The Lower Mokelumne River Restoration Program has strong local, county and regional support. We urge CALFED to finish the commitment, which began four years ago, and change the rating to "Above Average to Superior." This program is not deserving of a "Not Recommended."

Best Regards,

Erica Moyer
Executive Director

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STOKES FARMS



Mr. Dan Gray
CALFED Bay Delta Program
1416 9th St. Suite 630
Sacramento, CA 95814

Re: LMRRP

Dear Mr. Gray

I am writing this letter with great concern over the decision that was made in regards to the LMRRP "Not recommended" rating. As a concerned Taxpayer and Wine Grape Grower in the LMRRP area, the rating of this project should be reconsidered to the above average or Superior rating. The LMRRP has worked in great detail with State and Federal Fishery agencies to develop a plan that could be beneficial to all. The LMRRP is in the final stages of design and permit, ready for construction with over 2.6 million dollars spent during this phase. The question I have for you Mr. Gray is, if CALFED was willing to fund 2.6 million dollars to develop a project and give it a "Not recommended" rating, how is it that they WISELY spend their money? The LMRRP has strong local, county and regional support and needs to be built. A project such as this may change the image of CALFED from a "study it to death and do nothing" to a long-term restoration project that would be beneficial to all.

Thank you,

Bill Stokes
Stokes Farms



WINZLER & KELLY
CONSULTING ENGINEERS

April 23, 2002

Mr. Dan Ray
CALFED Bay Delta Program
1416 9th Street, Suite 630
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: **2002 CALFED Funding PSP**
Lower Mokelumne River Restoration Program

Dear Mr. Ray:

Since 1998, Winzler & Kelly has served the Woodbridge Irrigation District as design consultants for civil, structural, architectural, mechanical, and electrical designs for the dam and fish ladder elements of the subject project. As Project Manager for that work, I can speak to the diligence with which this team accommodated the design criteria *required* by regulatory agencies representing the spirit of the Endangered Species Act. Regulatory agencies participating in monthly design progress meetings included the U.S. Bureau of Reclamation, U.S. Fish & Wildlife, National Marine Fisheries, and California State Fish & Game. It was our charge to procure an operating facility that allowed the District to divert its water rights entitlement, consider flood control issues of the City of Lodi, and meet the fisheries criteria set down by the regulatory agencies, all at reasonable cost. We were recently notified by the District that CALFED has rejected its application for construction funds for this project.

During design development, the LMRRP team of engineers and biologists from Federal and State agencies, together with the City of Lodi and the District, studied 14 project alternatives (Preliminary Alternatives Assessment Report 2000) and selected the project detailed in the District's funding application as the best project to meet operating requirements and comply with the spirit of the Endangered Species Act (ESA).

Following two years of design, wherein the design team worked closely with all of the abovementioned regulatory agencies and East Bay Municipal Utility District to accommodate minimum fisheries requirements, the Woodbridge Irrigation District submitted its application for project construction funds in December 2001. This application provided CALFED with a project, divided into three independently fundable projects, all or part of which could be funded without affecting the District's right to divert seasonal irrigation waters. The application made clear the flexibility of funding options that ranged from \$12 million to \$32 million. Comments from the *Fish Screen and Passage Technical Review* committee included the following:

"The project applicant has worked tirelessly with state and federal agencies to develop a design that will meet the needs of all parties: the system capacity will not prevent the irrigation district from taking their entitled water right; the City of Lodi will be able to maintain their parks lake elevation at the prescribed value; riverside land owners will not have their yards flooded by high reservoir elevations in summer time; out-migrating fish will be able to follow the rivers current to the dam when the low level fish screen is in use; a significant

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predation problem should be eliminated; the existing screens bypass system does not facilitate timely passage due to poor entrance conditions, small pipe diameter, and floating debris; and adult migrating fish will gain easier passage."

By conclusion of the design, all agencies involved in development of both criteria and design had agreed upon the content of the final product. The project as designed met the criteria required by participating regulatory agencies.

The CALFED *Evaluation Summary Rating* provided four categories: "Superior", "Above Average", "Adequate", and "Not Recommended." The LMRRP received a CALFED rating of "Not Recommended" with the comment that the District should explore "... restoring the river to its original channel to facilitate an on-river screen option at the head of the existing diversion channel which would provide better biological benefits at less cost." This option was one of the 14 alternatives considered early by the District's design team and was rejected as unacceptable by fish biologists from participating regulatory agencies.

In undertaking this project, the Woodbridge Irrigation District has pursued the following goals:

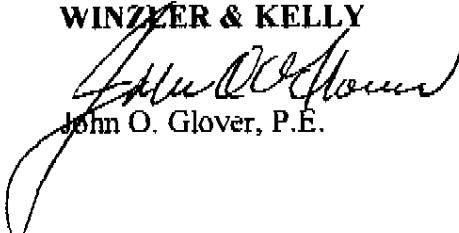
1. Provide a new diversion structure acceptable to the jurisdictional review of the California Department of Water Resources, Division of Safety of Dams.
2. Improve upstream fisheries in the Mokelumne River by constructing a fish passage facility that reflects state-of-the-art design to enhance safe passage of endangered species while minimizing the influence of predators.
3. Meet the minimum requirements of all regulatory agencies having jurisdiction.
4. Provide WID with a safe operating facility for diversion of its water right entitlement.

As designers with no vested interest, having considered both project economics and the spirit of the ESA, we are profoundly perplexed by CALFED's rating of "Not Recommended." This was a 'win-win' project encompassing features that would significantly enhance the fisheries upstream of Woodbridge and provided CALFED with construction options wherein even the minimum project would dramatically improve habitat conditions on the river. By rejecting the project, everyone loses. The District is forced to operate a diversion structure that has come under critical scrutiny by DSOD and fish passage facilities that don't represent current technology for ladder designs.

We urge CALFED to reconsider its rating of the LMRRP application and fund one or more of the construction options as designed for improvement of in-stream conditions affecting endangered species.

Sincerely,

WINZLER & KELLY



John O. Glover, P.E.



May 3, 2002

Mr. Dan Ray
CALFED Bay Delta Program
1416 9th Suite 630
Sacramento, CA 95814

Subject: Lower Mokelumne River Restoration Program

Dear Mr. Ray,

It has come to our attention that the subject project was not recommended to be funded in the 2002 CALFED Funding PSP. This project should be rated as Superior and be wholly or partially funded for the following reasons:

All involved State and Federal Regulatory Agencies have approved the project with protection of ESA listed fish being of paramount concern.

There may be legal issues involved relative to Federal law if a funding priority was established by CALFED that will prevent this Regulatory Agency approved ESA related fish protection program, in whole or in part, to proceed.

The project is design complete and can proceed in whole, or in phases, to provide tangible benefit to the fisheries resources.

The alternatives to the proposed project were all evaluated, assessed and refined to the present approved configuration by experienced State, Federal and Private technical/biological professionals at a significant level of investment costs.

The fishery resource in the Lower Mokelumne River is significant and well supported; CALFED priorities should reflect this based on these basic facts.

Very Truly Yours,

Edward E. Donahue, PE
Vice President

Joseph D. McMichael, P.E.1196 Lancer Drive
Walla Walla, WA 99362Phone 509 525-4577
Fax 509 529-5898
E-mail: jdm@bmi.net

May 4, 2002

Mr. Dan Ray
CALFED Bay Delta Program
1416 9th St. Suite 630
Sacramento, CA 95814

Dear Sir:

It has come to my attention that CALFED has determined to place a "Not Recommended" designation for the year 2002 funding for the Lower Mokelumne River Restoration Program (LMRRP). As I have been very much involved with the development of LMRRP plans for this project and a person that has been associated with protection of the fishery resources of the Pacific Coast for more than forty years, I urge you to reconsider this decision.

The LMRRP has been a CALFED priority project for the past four years. Over \$2.6 million has been spent on planning, design, engineering, and permitting in order to provide a project that will protect and enhance fish and wildlife for the citizens of California and the United States. The all-inclusive project was recommended by the LMRRP Technical Group that oversaw the development and design. This group consists of Local, State and Federal Agencies including NMFS, USFWS, USBR, EBMUD, CDFG, City of Lodi, and Woodbridge Irrigation District. These entities have developed a total plan that will, if implemented, provide the maximum protection and the greatest benefit for the fishery resource. However, it has been purposely designed such that individual portions of the overall plan may be constructed to better facilitate funding. This provides the opportunity for more critical areas of fish and wildlife protection to be accomplished as quickly as possible, while those items of less importance may be constructed whenever funds become available. This flexibility was essential in the development of the design in order to afford the funding agencies the opportunity fund the project in an item-by-item method. The LMRRP proposal must not be taken as an all-or-nothing project.

The two most important parts of this project are (1) the fish screen at the entrance of the WID canal and (2) the Dam Weir and adult fish passage structures associated with it. The immediate funding of these structures is essential for the protection of fish movement through the area. The following provides a brief list of reasons why the prompt rehabilitation of these facilities is necessary.

- WID Canal Screen
 - a. Screen is out of compliance with present CDFG and NMFS requirements for water diversion structures located in streams with salmonids.
 - b. Fish transportation pipe out of compliance with present CDFG and NMFS requirements for fish transportation structures for salmonids.

May 4, 2002

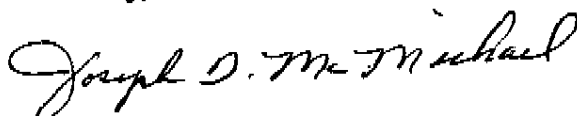
● Page 2

- c. Existing screen structure was poorly designed and causes delays in downstream movement of fish.
 - d. Existing screen structure in poor state of repair and injurious to fish.
 - e. Counting of fish is non-existent which causes problems with management of the resource.
 - f. ESD listing requires compliance with screen requirements.
- Dam Weir and associated adult fish facilities
 - a. Poor fish attraction into the existing fish ladder entrance.
 - b. False attraction into the spillway area by dam leakage causing unnecessary delay in upstream migration and injuries/mortality to fish.
 - c. Poorly designed fish ladder causing delays in upstream migration.
 - d. Adult fish counting is non-existent, which causes problems with management of the resource.
 - e. Downstream migrants are swept over the existing spillway structure into a debris/toe protection area that is injurious to fish.
 - f. Under existing conditions predator control is impossible.

The project lends itself to being constructed in segments and has the strong support of local, county, state, and federal entities. The technical team has developed a design that meets the needs of the fishery resource and allows WID to take its water entitlements. The design also allows a reasonable development of the total project that can be accomplished in steps according to priorities and funding. The project is fully designed and permitted, ready to be constructed.

Due to the urgency of necessary modifications required for the protection of the fishery resource associated with this project I am urging CALFED to reconsider their recommendations for the year 2002. It is imperative that some funding be made available so that the most important parts of this project are constructed as soon as possible. The Lower Mokelumne River Restoration Program should be changed to "Above Average or Superior".

Sincerely,



Joseph D. McMichael, P.E.
Civil (Fisheries) Engineer